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Pol Libya-US

Department of State TELEGRAM

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SSO 00,USIE 00,CCO 00,JPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSC 10,P 03,RSC 01,

PRS 01,SS 20,AID 28,PC 04,NEA 13,RSR 01,/151 W

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
065124
REVIEWED BY _____ DATE 12 JUL 1989
RDS or IDS EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKING
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Benghazi 631

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BENGHAZI 631

FOR BLAKE FROM LANE

1. WHEN I ENTERED THE EMBASSY AT ABOUT 09:00 SEPTEMBER TWO, FOLLOWING MEMEOGRAPHED STATEMENT IN ARABIC UNDER DOOR. STATEMENT ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (ADDRESS PENNED IN), AND SIGNED BY REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL. INFORMAL TRANSLATION AS FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN QUOTE. OUR GOLOUIUS LIBYAN ARMY DECLARED THE BLESSED REVOLUTION OF SEPTEMBER ONE IN ORDER TO CORRECT DOMESTIC STAGNATION AND TO ACHIEVE POSITIVE EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION FOR THE PEOPLE IN AFFAIRS THAT CONCERN THEM IN THE WORLD OF TODAY. THIS MORNING (SIC SEPT ONE) UNITS OF THE ARMY, UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE LIBYAN REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, TOOK ACTION, BELIEVING IN PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO LIFE, LIBERTY, AND DIGNITY AND DESIRING TO ACHIEVE ALL THE HOPES OF MAN FOR PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE.

3. THIS VANGUARD OF THE STRUGGLING LIBYAN PEOPLE TOOK THIS ACTION TO ACHIEVE THE FOLLOWING GOALS:

FIRST - ELIMINATE THE LACK OF CONCERN OF THE PAST IN TREATING VARIOUS SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WHICH BELOVED LIBYA IS FACING.

(2) SECOND - EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION IN TREATING THE PROBLEMS OF

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THE ARABS IN THE ARAB WORLD.

THIRD. ELIMINATE THE CARELESS TREATMENT OF THE PAST REGARDING OUR PARTICAPATION IN AFFAIRS WHICH CONCERN THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD AS A WHOLE.

4. YOUR EXCELLENCY: OUR BLOODLESS REVOLUTION BELIEVES COMPLETELY IN THE DECISIONS AND WORK OF THE UN, AND WISHES TO PRESERVE ALL THOSE AGREEMENTS AND PROMISES WHICH BIND THE LIBYAN PEOPLE TO YOUR PEOPLE. WE UNDERTOOK OUR WHITE REVOLUTION TO ENABLE THE LIBYAN PEOPLE TO TAKE ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE AMONG OTHER PEOPLES.

5. WE WISH TO REASSURE YOU THAT YOUR COMMUNITY IN OUR COUNTRY WILL BE TREATED WITH EVERY CONSIDERATION AND RESPECT BECAUSE THEY ARE ASSISTING THE LIBYAN POEPLE IN BUILDING THEIR COUNTRY AND THEIR FUTURE.

6. EXCELLENCY: OUR LIBYAN PEOPLE HAVE GREAT APPRECIATION AND RESPECT FOR YOUR FRIENDLY PEOPLE AND WE WILL KEEP THIS ATTITUDE BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THAT THE FUTURE OF MAN IN THE WORLD OF TODAY IN INDEVISIBLE. END QUOTE.

7. FIFTEEN MINUTES AFTER I ARRIVED AT EMBASSY, YOUNG MAN CLAIMING TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL CALLED ON ME. HE REFUSED TO GIVE HIS NAME OR NAMES OF ANY MEMBERS OF REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL. HE WAS ANXIOUS THAT I UNDERSTAND AND TRANSMIT DECLARATION TRANSLATED ABOVE. AS WE WENT OVER IT TOGETHER, HE WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO EMPHASIZE FRIENDLY ASPECTS AND MADE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

A. NEW GOVERNMENTS FIRST JOB WAS INTERNAL REFORM.

B. LIBYA WAS A SMALL, SICK COUNTRY BETWEEN TWO STRONG NEIGHBORS, THE UAR AND ALGERIA. LIBYA WOULD HAVE TO KEEP THE ATTITUDES OF THESE COUNTRIES VERY MUCH IN MIND IN FORMING ITS FOREIGN POLICY.

C. THE NEW LIBYA WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. HE MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY HIS INTEREST IN HAVING LIBYA WORK OUT A MILITARY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US SIMILAR

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TO THAT WHICH US NOW HAS WITH THAILAND, SOUTH KOREA AND FORMOSA. HOWEVER BECAUSE OF NEIGHBORS, NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO MOVE CAREFULLY TOWARD THIS GOAL.

8. COMMENT: THE YOUNG REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REVOLUTION WAS CLEARLY TRYING TO REASSURE ME ABOUT ITS AIMS. HIS REMARKS MAY BE A COMPLETE SNOW JOB OR THEY MAY REPRESENT THE ATTITUDES OF OF THE REVOLUTIONARIES. HE PROMISED TO CALL ON ME AGAIN "WHEN HE HAD MORE TIME".
BLAKE

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